Ronald & Carol Lyons

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August 22, 2013

Brian Pedrotti County Planning and Building Department 976 Osos Street, Room 300 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

Dear Mr. Pedrotti,

As a property owner in the Upper Los Berros area since 1996, I continue to be very concerned about the Laetitia development proposal. Based on what I have seen and my knowledge of that general area, I feel the Revised Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report does not adequately address the most critical issues and that it is flawed and should be rejected.

These issues include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Water To put it plain and simple, there is not enough water in the area for this development. Many wells in the area are already in overdraft. The available water is limited and the supply of water is fast becoming inadequate to the needs of current residents and property owners. While the situation may not be as bad as the current status of the Paso Robles basin, it may not be far behind. It seems to me it would be better to take responsible proactive measures now rather than having to correct errors from the past at a later date. One of those measures would be to deny or at least severely restrict development in the area until such time as adequate water supplies become available, if that even ever happens.
- 2. The continued degradation of Los Berros Creek I have seen first-hand the reduction in the water flow in this creek, caused to a large extent by the Laetitia vineyard operation. In the past this was a year-round creek that provided water to not only human water users, but also to wildlife in the area. In fact, this creek used to support a population of steelhead trout. Sadly this creek can no longer support much of anything. Significant biological damage has already been done, and approval of the Laetitia development as proposed will almost certainly be responsible for the irreparable demise of this creek for all practical purposes. What has happened to this creek is nothing short of a disaster.
- 3. Increased traffic In addition to an inadequate water supply and the environmental damage in the area, I am also very concerned about the impact of increased traffic that would result from this development. Not only would the significant increase in traffic have a huge negative impact on the overall quality of life in the area, the existing roads are simply not adequate. Not only are all the issues related to the increased traffic a negative impact, the county already is unable to adequately and properly maintain its roads in general. No amount of mitigation on the part of the developer can properly and fairly address this concern

This proposed project is wrong for the environment of the area, wrong for the taxpayers of the County, and wrong for the residents and other property owners in the area. I respectfully request that the entire project be denied, at least until such time as it can be proven that there is adequate water for the entire area, including sufficiently restoring Los Berros Creek to a viable stream once again, and the County has the means to make needed improvements to the roads, and further, can properly maintain the roads into the foreseeable future.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Ronald S. Lyons